

HOPKINS COUNTY SCHOOLS




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FIRST STEP *NURSING* PROGRAM



Project Goals

- To introduce high school students to careers in nursing.
 - To provide work-based educational experience for students.
 - To provide on-the-job experience that correlates with the students' program of studies.
 - To address the nursing shortage.
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Requirements for Program

- Students must be enrolled in the Health Science classes in their high schools.
- Students must have completed the Medical Terminology class in high school and currently be enrolled in another Health Science class.
- Students must be within good academic standing with Hopkins County Schools.
- Students must complete a job application and interview with the human resources department at the hospital.
- Students must write a statement on why they would like to participate in the program and provide a high school transcript.
- Students must be at least 16 years of age and have transportation to and from work site.

Work-based Schedule

- The students' work-based schedule is from 12:30-3:30 p.m. weekdays and follows the school calendar.
- On school holidays and snow days, they are not required to work.
- Work-based experience is offered for 18 weeks.
- New class of students will be accepted in August and January.
- Students are eligible to earn C.N.A. Certification during the 18 weeks.
- Students who earn C.N.A. Certification may apply for other open positions at the hospital/clinic.

Program Content

- Students learn basic skills at school and the Madisonville Community College Lab.
 - Infection control/hand washing/gloving
 - CPR
 - Bathing/oral care/shampoo/nail care
 - Bed making/occupied/unoccupied/different types of beds
 - Transporting patients/hydraulic lift chair
 - Height/weight use of scales and measurements, etc.

Benefits to Student

- Students earn dual credit for taking Health Science classes in high school (9 credit hours for all four classes).
 - Medical Terminology
 - Introduction to Health Science
 - Microbiology
 - First Aid & Emergency Procedures
- Students may obtain C.N.A. Certification
 - A.D.N. (nursing programs) require this as an admission requirement.
- Students do not work nights or weekends.

Benefits to Work Institution

➤ Possible Future Employees

- Students are already orientated (comfortable) to the institution
- Students may pursue a future career in nursing (or another career related to health care) and return to work there
- Cost of program relatively small compared to the cost of recruiting, training, hiring, retention efforts, etc.

Students are Accountable

Student Responsibilities

- Students complete daily work “communication sheets”
- Students complete personal growth plan
- Provide a nursing supervisor who:
 - Completes student progress reports
 - Completes attendance and work reports
 - Completes on the job evaluations

Students are assigned a grade by school supervising teacher and work-site coordinator .

Program Partnerships

- Regional Medical Center
- Hopkins County Schools
 - School to Careers/Tech Prep
- Madisonville Community College
 - KCTCS
- West Area Health Education Center
 - Trover Foundation Education Division

Partnership Roles

- **Work-based Institution:**
 - Provide working experience
 - Pay students' salary
 - Supervise students at work-based site
 - Assign nursing preceptors
- **Health Science Teachers/School:**
 - Serve as mediator between school and work site
 - Complete school work-based paperwork
 - Report grades to high school/community college
- **Madisonville Community College:**
 - Provide supervisor/teacher for program
 - Provide lab for practicing nursing procedures
 - Provide liability insurance for students while in hospital clinical setting

AHEC Role

- Schedule Meetings
 - Work with all partnerships
 - Coordinate meetings
 - Take and mail all meeting minutes
- Create Brochure/Dispense to Schools
- Schedule/Coordinate Orientation with Students, Parents, Work Institution
- Track Students

In Conclusion

➤ Evaluations & Outcomes:

Spring 2005 class will be the 6th class of students.
Program began 2001.

Other communities in our region are requesting
AHEC assistance with coordinating similar programs.

Forty-three students have received C.N.A.
Certification.

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Handbook

- Click [here](#) to see the First Step Nursing Program handbook (requires Adobe Reader)